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**AFGHANISTAN. 24 Oct.**—Soviet leaders' acceptance of invitation to visit Afghanistan (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**26 Oct.**—**Czechoslovakia.** The Afghan Embassy in Delhi announced that the Government had accepted an invitation of the Czechoslovak Government to send a military mission to Czechoslovakia.

**ALGERIA. 20 Oct.**—M. Bourges-Maunoury, French Minister of the Interior, said at Philippeville that French security forces were carrying out their mission 'with a constant care to distinguish clearly between the mass of the Muslim population and a few handfuls of outlaws'. He had made use of his visit to verify certain allegations of atrocities made in the French Parliament and press, and found that in each case the facts had been 'gravely distorted'.

It was announced that on 19 October a rebel band about 200 strong had crossed the Tunisian frontier and attacked a mine near Gafsa. One Frenchman was killed; two others were kidnapped and later found murdered. A strong force supported by artillery and aircraft later engaged the rebels and after a violent battle put them to flight.

Near Batna rebels cut the throats of seven Moslems and slaughtered their cattle.

Rebel bands kidnapped at least thirteen people from three villages in the Constantine department.

**31 Oct.**—French statement on elections (*see France*).

**ARGENTINA. 22 Oct.**—Delegation of goodwill to Uruguay (*see Uruguay*).

**Disorders.** A disturbance occurred in Buenos Aires when about a hundred persons, said to be Communists, tried to take possession of the premises of the textile workers' union from Peronista workers. There was an explosion and some shooting. Later, police made some arrests.

**26 Oct.**—**Economic Situation.** General Lonardi, provisional President, said in a broadcast to the nation that ten years of irresponsibility and corruption under the Perón regime had brought the country to a 'disastrous' economic situation. Holdings of gold and foreign currency had fallen from the equivalent of U.S. \$1,680 m. to \$450 m. Argentina was no longer a great exporter nation. Exports *per capita* in the last five years were only half the pre-war figures. The state of transport was deplorable. The country was in a state of calamitous inflation, and the money supply had increased five-fold in the last ten years. Bureaucratic excesses were one of the chief causes of the inflation: there were 150,000 unnecessary State employees. The Perón regime's petroleum policy was not less disastrous than the agricultural and pastoral policy. In an attempt to save the petroleum situation it had resorted to inadmissible dealings which the entire country had repudiated. Argentina would be able to double petroleum output in a relatively short time and eventually cover her entire needs. Nevertheless the new Government considered that foreign capital and technical help was advantageous and it believed in free enterprise.

A report by Dr Prebisch, financial adviser to the President, showed

that the consolidated and floating public debt amounted to about 70,000 m. pesos against 9,000 m. at the end of 1945.

**27 Oct.—Financial Policy.** The Finance Minister, Dr Garcia, announced the immediate abolition of multiple and unreal foreign exchanges and the fixing of a single rate for official imports and exports at 18 pesos to the United States dollar. He said the free market would be allowed to find its own level by supply and demand and be really free instead of being fixed by the Argentine Central Bank. The investment of new foreign capital would be entirely free, and profits earned since the previous June could be freely transferred abroad. The Government regretted that the unfavourable balance of payments made it impossible to lift immediately all restrictions on transfer of capital invested in Argentina. An import surcharge would be imposed on foreign motor cars and the proceeds used to establish a fund for the re-establishment of the economy to be used for social purposes. The Government would soon allow export through the free market of products not on the official exchange list.

**31 Oct.—Perón.** The Minister for the Army announced that the military court which had been trying ex-President Perón had forbidden him to use his military rank or to wear uniform. One of the offences of which he was convicted was the sowing of hatred in the Argentine family. A decree had been issued ratifying the court's verdict.

**1 Nov.**—A clash occurred in Buenos Aires between Roman Catholics and Radicals. The police used tear gas to clear the streets.

**Trade Unions.** A threatened general strike called by the General Confederation of Labour was cancelled after an agreement had been reached between union leaders and the Minister of Labour concerning the unions' demand that the Peronista officials should be allowed to remain at their posts pending union elections. The Government made certain concessions.

**2 Nov.**—Departure of Señor Perón for Nicaragua (*see Paraguay*).

**AUSTRALIA. 25 Oct.**—Mr Menzies, Prime Minister, replying to the debate on the report of the Royal Commission on Russian espionage, said that scores of Soviet intelligence operatives in democratic countries had been identified as a result of the Petrovs' disclosures. He accused Dr Evatt of having, 'with the enthusiastic support of every Communist in Australia, sought to discredit the judiciary, subvert the authority of the security organization, cry down decent patriotic Australians, and build up a fifth column of our enemies'. He was compelled to say that 'the man on trial in this debate is Dr Evatt himself'.

**26 Oct.—Elections.** Mr Menzies informed Parliament that he had advised the Governor-General to dissolve the House of Representatives. Elections for a new House, and for thirty new senators whose terms would begin on 1 July 1956, would be held on 10 December.

**AUSTRIA. 26 Oct.—Neutrality.** The lower House passed by a large majority a law establishing perpetual neutrality for Austria. Only the right-wing League of Independents opposed.

**BRAZIL. 25 Oct.—Presidential Election.** Unofficial results of the election showed that Senor Kubitschek and Senor Goulart, the candidates of an alliance of Conservative, Social Democratic, and Labour parties and of the outlawed Communists, had been elected as President and Vice-President. They secured 30 per cent of the votes cast. The result was subject to confirmation by the supreme electoral court.

**BRITISH SOMALILAND. 28 Oct.**—Report of arrests of Somali elders by Ethiopia, and of border fighting (*see Great Britain*).

**BURMA. 22 Oct.**—Prime Minister's statement on Russian technicians for Burma (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**1 Nov.—Poland.** It was announced that Burma and Poland had signed a three-year trade agreement.

Burmese proposal for Soviet representation at African-Asian conferences (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**CHINA. 26 Oct.—Hostilities.** Communist guns fired 215 rounds at the Nationalist-held island of Quemoy.

**28 Oct.—Macao.** The New China News Agency reported that a meeting in Canton had demanded the return of Macao to China.

**31 Oct.**—Statement of American woman after release from Chinese imprisonment (*see Hong Kong*).

**COLOMBO PLAN CONFERENCE. 20 Oct.**—At the conference in Singapore, the United States delegate, Mr Hollister, Director of the International Co-operation Administration, announced that the United States had offered to establish in south or south-east Asia a centre for nuclear research and training which would include a research reactor and a small power reactor. He afterwards told the press that the American contribution would come out of the \$100 m. fund for Asian economic development approved by Congress.

Mr Lester Pearson, Canadian Minister of External Affairs, told the conference of plans agreed between India and Canada to set up a reactor in India. He said that in meeting the external costs of the reactor Canada would not reduce her other aid under the Colombo Plan.

**21 Oct.**—A communiqué issued at the conclusion of the conference spoke of an increasing degree of self-help, noting that Governments in the area had devoted £752 m. to development in 1954-5 against £542 m. in the preceding year. It had been decided to extend the plan until 1961. The communiqué also emphasized the need to encourage private investment in the area.

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE. 21 Oct.**—M. Spaak, Belgian Foreign Minister, speaking in a debate in the Consultative Assembly on European policy, said that it was clear that the political Europe which many had wanted was not yet possible. As the European Defence Community had not been accepted, the same aims must be attained by other methods on the economic and functional plane. He pointed out that the Benelux



countries had already put forward proposals for collaboration in matters of transport and the traditional forms of energy, for a new organization for nuclear energy, and for the establishment of a common market, and he said that the experts were unanimously convinced of the need for common efforts by the European countries, otherwise Europe could never hope to approach the achievements of the United States or Russia.

**27 Oct.—Policy for Europe.** The Consultative Assembly voted by 65 votes to none, with 4 abstentions, a resolution saying: (1) any European agreement must offer the same security to east and west; (2) a reunified Germany should have equal rights with other countries, should not be compelled to join any military alliance, and should be free to choose its own method of participating in European and international co-operation; (3) that the establishment of a united Europe was essential, both for the peaceful settlement of internal disputes and because the defensive nature of its alliances and its armaments system would provide a guarantee of general peace; (4) the west could not accept as final the suppression of national independence and political freedom of a large number of people in central and eastern Europe; (5) before the conclusion of any agreement with Russia, the western Powers should consult with other countries concerned, and the final approval and detailed application of any provisional agreement on general principles should be determined with the consent of all countries concerned.

**CYPRUS. 20 Oct.**—Famagusta was placed under curfew after an R.A.F. officer had been shot and wounded. At about the same time a time bomb exploded near police headquarters causing much damage but no casualties.

In Nicosia a grenade was thrown into a bar frequented by British soldiers. The only casualty was a Turkish boy.

The Government announced a ban on processions and meetings on 28 October, the fifteenth anniversary of Greece's entry into the war, and on the following day.

**21 Oct.**—School children at Kyrenia, who had marched through the town in protest against the Government ban on processions, refused police orders to go home and stoned the police. They were dispersed with the aid of tear gas.

**23 Oct.**—In Limassol a bomb exploded, and a Turkish constable was seriously injured when a terrorist hurled a grenade at him.

**25 Oct.**—The curfew was lifted at Limassol and then reimposed after a bomb had been thrown at a British military police patrol; it wounded a Royal Marine commando and a Cypriot special constable.

**26 Oct.**—A grenade was thrown at a British military vehicle in Limassol. No one was hurt.

In Famagusta police and troops using tear gas dispersed a demonstration against the curfew by about 5,000 persons, mostly children.

A British soldier was fatally wounded by a grenade thrown at the lorry in which he was travelling near Chlorakas in the Paphos district.

**27 Oct.**—Clashes with troops and police occurred in Limassol during

**Cyprus** (*continued*)

a twenty-four hour strike called by the trade unions in protest against the curfew. Two bombs were thrown, one of which wounded a soldier; and a car and a Naafi store were set on fire.

In Larnaca school children stoned troops and police who charged them to disperse them. Several children and one policeman were hurt.

**28 Oct.**—The Government's ban on processions and assemblies was defied in various places and clashes between demonstrators and security forces occurred. In Morphou three British soldiers were seriously wounded by a hand grenade and two demonstrators were wounded when the police fired to disperse the crowd. In Famagusta, Larnaca, and Limassol demonstrators stoned the security forces and had to be dispersed with tear gas. More than 300 arrests were made.

The death sentence was imposed on a 22-year-old Greek Cypriot, Savva Karaolis, for the murder of a policeman in August.

**29 Oct.**—Archbishop Makarios issued a statement claiming that Greece was in a much stronger economic position than Cyprus and that Greeks in general were better off than Cypriots as their *per capita* tax was £15 against £19 in Cyprus.

**30 Oct.**—Two bombs exploded in Famagusta, one of them in the post office, causing much damage. There were no casualties.

About a thousand sticks of dynamite were stolen from a store near Nicosia.

The Governor left for London to report to Ministers.

**31 Oct.**—Three more bombs exploded in Famagusta, causing damage but no casualties. Two youths were arrested.

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 26 Oct.**—Invitation to Afghan military mission (*see Afghanistan*).

**EGYPT. 20 Oct.**—**Egyptian-Syrian Military Pact** (*see Syria*).

**21 Oct.**—**Sudan.** It was announced that the Government had informed the British Embassy on 19 October that it had sent invitations to the seven Powers to be represented on the international commission to supervise the process of self-determination in the Sudan. It had also sent terms of reference for the commission.

**22 Oct.**—The British Ambassador, Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, called on the Minister of the Interior to protest against the Egyptian invitations to the international commission. He urged that Egypt should take into account a proposal made by the Sudanese Prime Minister, Ismail el Azhari, in a statement on 18 October, that the procedure of a plebiscite for self-determination should be abandoned in favour of a vote in the existing Parliament.

British statement on Egyptian-Syrian pact (*see Great Britain*).

**23 Oct.**—**Protest to Britain.** It was announced that a strong protest had been sent to Britain about a statement recently made by Mr Luce, senior adviser to the Governor-General of the Sudan, that if the Sudanese Parliament decided on independence Britain would support the decision. The Egyptian protest said that Mr Luce's statement showed

that the British Government's policy was clearly aimed at realizing British interests in the Sudan and was a breach of the 1953 agreement.

**United Nations.** Colonel Nasser, Prime Minister, criticized the United Nations for not dealing effectively with the problems of Palestine, North Africa, and armaments. He said Egypt was determined to implement the Bandoeng Conference resolutions, to support the right of every people to self-determination, and to pursue the policy of non-adherence to *blocs*.

**25 Oct.—United States.** It was announced that the Government had asked the United States air attaché to leave the country because of allegedly derogatory remarks about Egypt.

**Trade with China.** The public services council authorized the purchase from China of 60,000 tons of steel worth £E2.5 m., in return for Egyptian cotton and rice.

**26 Oct.—Frontier Incident.** It was announced that Israeli forces in the Auja demilitarized zone had fired on an Egyptian frontier checkpost, wounding an Egyptian soldier. Egyptian forces had then forced the Israelis to retire, had captured an Israeli soldier, and had taken up positions 'ensuring their protection and security'. (*See also Israel*).

**27 Oct.—Egyptian-Saudi Arabian Pact.** A five-year mutual defence pact between Egypt and Saudi Arabia was signed in Cairo by Colonel Nasser, Prime Minister, and the Saudi Arabian Crown Prince and Foreign Secretary, Emir Feisal. Besides providing for mutual help in the event of an armed attack against either party, the pact provided for the establishment of a supreme council of Foreign and Defence Ministers and a Military Council of the two Chiefs of Staff.

**Buraiimi Oasis.** Emir Feisal of Saudi Arabia, addressing a press conference on the British reoccupation of the Buraimi oasis, accused Britain of committing 'an atrocious armed aggression on an oasis which is part of Saudi Arabian territory' and of ignoring agreements with Saudi Arabia. He said the Security Council would be notified immediately.

**28 Oct.—Israeli reprisal action** (*see Israel*).

In announcing the Israeli attack in the Auja demilitarized zone in which ten Egyptians were killed and twenty-seven captured, an Egyptian spokesman said that an Egyptian counter-attack had compelled the Israelis to withdraw, leaving four dead and a quantity of arms. A strong protest had been lodged with the mixed armistice commission. It was later announced that Israelis had reoccupied a position in the Auja demilitarized zone from which they had earlier withdrawn on General Burns's instructions.

**29 Oct.—Nile Dam.** The Government signed a contract with a British firm of consulting engineers for the construction of a high dam at Assouan.

**The Sudan.** The Government announced that it had informed Britain of its decision to approve the procedure of a plebiscite to decide the question of self-determination in the Sudan and that it wished to amend the 1953 agreement accordingly.

U.N. appeal to Egypt and Israel, and Israeli allegations against Egypt (*see Israel*).

**Egypt** (*continued*)

**30 Oct.—News Corporation.** It was announced that a group of newspapers and newspaper distributing houses, including *Al Ahram*, *Akhbar El Yom*, *Al Gomhouria*, and *Al Hilal*, had signed an agreement to start a news corporation to be known as the Middle East News Company.

**31 Oct.**—Israeli reports of Egyptian attack etc. (*see Israel*).

**1 Nov.**—Further Israeli–Egyptian clashes (*see Israel*).

An official spokesman described the Egyptian attack on the Israeli settlement of Kussufim as ‘a protective measure prompted by provocative acts by Israel’.

**2 Nov.—Israel.** Dr Raef Bellema, the acting secretary-general of the Arab League, said with reference to Mr Ben Gurion’s offer of peace talks (*see Israel*) that no Arab leader with any pride would consent to meet or talk to Mr Ben Gurion. He added that Israel should first carry out the United Nations resolutions on Palestine.

**Ministerial Changes.** Wing-Commander Gamal Salem, deputy Prime Minister, became Minister of Communications in addition to his other duties. Fathi Radwan, the former holder of the post, was appointed Minister of National Guidance in place of Major Salem, whose resignation had been announced on 31 August.

**ETHIOPIA. 28 Oct.**—Report of arrests of Somali elders by Ethiopia, and of border fighting (*see Great Britain*).

**FINLAND. 24 Oct.**—Russian troops began to evacuate the Porkkala base, west of Helsinki.

**FORMOSA. 25 Oct.**—General Chiang Kai-shek, speaking on the tenth anniversary of the ending of the Japanese occupation of Formosa, said that he firmly believed that ‘in the near future we shall accomplish our task of restoring the mainland to our rule’.

**26 Oct.**—Communist guns fired 215 rounds at Quemoy island.

**2 Nov.**—It was announced that Nationalist Thunderjet aircraft had sunk nine gunboats and armoured junks off the Fukien coast.

**FOUR-POWER CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS.**

**27 Oct.**—The Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, the United States, and the Soviet Union met in Geneva to confer on the agenda agreed at the conference of heads of Government in July, i.e. (1) European security and German unification; (2) disarmament; (3) east-west contacts.

It was agreed that the discussions should be secret, but that documents and general statements should be published at the discretion of the proposer.

In opening speeches M. Pinay (France) said that while disarmament was a complex problem concerning which they might only be able to agree on a few preliminary measures, no obstacle impeded an immediate decision on a plan to link German unity with a European security

system. Without such a decision no further progress was possible. Mr Macmillan (Britain) associated himself with the main tenor of M. Pinay's remarks. Mr Molotov (U.S.S.R.) emphasized the importance of establishing guarantees against German remilitarization and suggested that it might be possible to bring about both European security and German reunification by stages. He emphasized also that the German problem must be settled by the Germans themselves. Speaking of the need to end the arms race and prohibit atomic weapons, he said it would be unconvincing to discuss control and inspection while continuing the arms race, and he thought east-west contacts could not be successfully developed until trade restrictions were removed. Mr Dulles (U.S.A.) said that all recognized that the division of Germany was a grave injustice and a source of instability. The United States was ready to join in assurances over German unity which would preclude any revival of German militarism and so take account of Soviet security interests. Progress on disarmament depended on the assurance that the reductions would actually be carried out—hence the importance of western plans for inspection and control.

**28 Oct.—Western Proposals.** The three western Foreign Ministers submitted a memorandum containing proposals for a treaty of Assurance on the Reunification of Germany together with the Eden Plan for German reunification which had been slightly modified since its first submission at the Berlin conference in January 1954. In a preamble the western Powers stated that free elections leading to the formation of a single Government for the whole of Germany was the right way of ensuring the full participation of the German people in solving the German problem. Without German unity any system of European security would be an illusion. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Western European Union were purely defensive, but in order to remove any possible grounds for Soviet refusal to reunify Germany promptly, they set out terms for a treaty which they proposed should be concluded concurrently with an agreement to reunify Germany under the Eden Plan. The treaty would enter into force only in conjunction with German reunification, and would be carried out by stages, the final stage becoming effective on the decision of a reunified Germany to enter N.A.T.O. and the Western European Union.

The proposed treaty provided for: (1) undertakings to refrain from the use of force and to withhold aid from any aggressor; (2) limitation of forces in a zone on either side of the demarcation line between a reunified Germany and the eastern European countries and, possibly, special measures for the disposition of forces in the parts of the zone closest to the line; (3) the provision of information on armed forces in the zone and mutual inspection for verification; (4) a radar warning system for both the western and eastern parts of the zone; (5) consultation among the parties to implement the treaty; (6) undertakings to take appropriate action to meet the common danger in the event of an attack by any N.A.T.O. member on a non-N.A.T.O. member, or vice versa.

The Eden Plan provided for the preparation by the four Powers, in



**Four-Power Conference of Foreign Ministers** (*continued*)

consultation with German experts, of an electoral law containing provisions guaranteeing genuine freedom of elections throughout Germany; supervision of the elections by a supervisory commission composed of representatives of the four Powers, with or without neutrals, assisted by Germans in a consultative capacity; the continued operation of the supervisory machinery in the period between the end of the elections and the assumption of control by the All-German Government; the formation of a provisional all-German Government, pending the drafting of a Constitution by the elected National Assembly; the submission of the Constitution to the National Assembly and, on its adoption, the formation of an all-German Government which would be responsible for the negotiation and conclusion of the peace treaty and which would have full authority to repudiate former international agreements and to conclude new ones.

**Soviet Proposals.** Mr Molotov tabled proposals for a European collective security treaty similar to those submitted by Marshal Bulganin at the Geneva conference in July. The memorandum proposed the participation in the treaty of all European States, and also the United States. Pending the unification of Germany both the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic would participate. Parties would undertake: to refrain from aggression; to consult together in the event of a threat of armed attack in Europe; in the event of such attack, to assist any State or States so attacked and to inform the Security Council; not to participate in any coalition, alliance, or agreement which was contrary to the purposes of the treaty; and to promote economic and cultural co-operation among themselves and with other States.

The treaty would provide for the setting up of a permanent consultative political committee and a military consultative organ to which representatives of the People's Republic of China would be invited as observers. During the first period (two or three years) parties to the treaty would still be bound by obligations under existing treaties but would at the same time refrain from the use of armed force. Pending the conclusion of agreements on disarmament and prohibition of atomic weapons, parties would undertake not to increase their armed forces on the territories of other European States under previous treaties. On the expiration of an agreed time limit, the Warsaw treaty of 14 May 1955, the Paris agreements of 23 October 1954, and the North Atlantic treaty of 4 April 1950 would expire. The treaty would have a validity of fifty years.

**29 Oct.**—Mr Dulles criticized the Soviet proposals on the ground that they failed to carry out either the letter or the spirit of the directive given by the July conference of heads of Government. He pointed out that although the directive spoke of the close link between German reunification and European security, the Russian proposals presumed the indefinite division of Germany. Moreover, the directive had instructed the Ministers to consider the renunciation of a resort to force, the control and inspection of arms, the establishment of a zone in which the disposition of forces would be subject to agreement, and any



other proposals which might lead to a solution. Whereas the western Powers had included proposals on the points suggested, the Russian proposals for a collective security pact were the same as those put forward before the directive was issued.

M. Pinay said that the real aim of the proposed Soviet pact was the disbandment of N.A.T.O., but the French Government had made clear that it would not bargain over French security.

Mr Macmillan replied to the Soviet allegations that the western Powers were building a military *bloc* and forcing uncontrolled militarization on Germany. He maintained that the western Powers were in fact exercising merely their right to self-defence. N.A.T.O. was a system of countries with common aims and views which the Soviet Union did not share. She could not therefore be accepted as a member. The abolition of the Warsaw pact would not be enough to induce the abolition of N.A.T.O. He pointed out that the Powers had offered a guarantee to Russia if Germany joined N.A.T.O., and he emphasized that Germany would be under no obligation whatever to join: under the western proposals she would be free to choose. He claimed in fact that the western proposals offered firmer guarantees against German militarism than the Soviet proposals.

Mr Molotov said he would put forward proposals on Germany in due course. He still could not see why Russia could not join N.A.T.O., and he could not agree with the argument that it was a collective security system. The same could have been said of the Fascist anti-Comintern pact which caused the Second World War. He said the western security proposals were an apparent step forward, but he claimed that everything in them had been made subordinate to the aim of getting the reunited and remilitarized Germany into N.A.T.O.

**Middle East.** Mr Macmillan had a private meeting with Mr Molotov at which, it was understood, he protested strongly about the Czechoslovak arms deal with Egypt.

**30 Oct.**—Mr Dulles had a private meeting with Mr Molotov at which 'problems of the Near East and other matters' were discussed.

Mr Dulles later received Mr Sharett, the Israeli Prime Minister, who told the press afterwards that he had left Mr Dulles in no doubt of the Israeli position. Israel considered her very existence threatened by the massive increase in Arab strength, and if the increase could not be prevented Israel should be strengthened and a security guarantee given her. It was understood that Mr Dulles had said that his Government would consider sympathetically the supply to Israel of some defensive weapons.

**31 Oct.—East-West Contacts.** Discussion of the second item on the agenda began, and the three western Foreign Ministers tabled a 'programme of action' proposing, *inter alia*, abolition of censorship and of the denial of access to normal sources of information; exchange of books, newspapers, and periodicals for sale over the counter; an end to jamming of broadcasts; exchanges of exhibitions, monthly broadcasts, and of cultural and sporting visits; opening of information centres; and increase of private tourism.

Mr Macmillan emphasized that the real and lasting value of the

**Four-Power Foreign Ministers' Conference** (*continued*)

development of east-west contacts depended on progress being made on the political questions of German unity, European security, and disarmament.

Mr Molotov, while favouring closer contacts, said that the first problem to be examined was the elimination of trade restrictions. He put forward a five-point plan including proposals for the elimination of trade barriers; free passage for ships through sea straits and international canals and the removal of restrictions in sea communications 'in certain States'; and for an international conference on the use of atomic energy in public health.

Mr Dulles announced that his Government was removing passport restrictions so that henceforth American passports would be valid for Russia and for those east European States which had relations with the United States. It was also prepared to reduce restriction of movement on Russians in the United States if the Soviet Government would do likewise. In addition his Government was ready to simplify certain procedures governing exports to east Europe.

The Ministers agreed to submit the whole question of east-west contacts to a quadripartite committee of experts who would report back on 10 November.

**European Security.** On reverting to discussion of the first item on the agenda, Mr Molotov proposed that representatives of east and west Germany should take part in the conference. This was rejected owing to western non-recognition of the east German regime, and it was decided that neither of the two German delegations should attend, though they would be available for consultation by either side.

**Soviet Proposals.** Mr Molotov tabled new proposals for a provisional European security treaty to remain in force until replaced by a wider treaty which in its turn would replace N.A.T.O., W.E.U., and the Warsaw Treaty. Members would include the four Powers, all W.E.U. countries, east and west Germany, and any other European State which wished to join (China was not mentioned). They would undertake to renounce the use of force against one another, to give one another all assistance against armed attack in Europe, to refrain from helping an aggressor, and to set up a consultative body for implementation of the treaty.

Mr Molotov also referred with favour to the original Eden plan (put forward in July) for a zone of inspection along either side of the east-west dividing line. He proposed that the zone should be much wider, covering the whole of east and west Germany and part or all of some neighbouring States, and that a maximum level should be fixed for the forces of the four great Powers stationed on other States' territories within the zone, and that the four Powers' armaments and armed forces within the zone should be subject to joint inspection.

Mr Macmillan pointed out that the new Soviet proposal for a security treaty still presumed the division of Germany, and he and the other two western Ministers sought in vain to get Mr Molotov to give his views on German unification.

**East German Proposals.** The east German Government submitted proposals to the Foreign Ministers, accompanied by a letter from Herr Grotewohl, Prime Minister, and by a statement protesting against the western Powers' refusal to admit east German representatives to the conference, and reserving the right to demand their admission to future conferences on Germany.

The proposals provided for an all-German council composed of delegates from the two parliaments and for a gradual *rapprochement* between the two States, leading to complete unification after an unspecified time. They proposed that the council should work for joint German representation at all international conferences and events, and that special bodies should be set up to collect data relating to the whole of Germany. It was made clear that in a reunified Germany capitalist property would be allowed alongside nationalized and co-operative properties. Religious freedom would be guaranteed. Safeguards against militarism would be required, also guarantees for the development of east German workers' achievements. The document mentioned the desirability of really free elections but gave no indication of how or when they should take place.

**Israel.** Outside the conference room, Mr Sharett had a meeting with Mr Molotov. It was understood that he urged that the Soviet Union should cease the policy implied in the arms deal with Egypt.

**2 Nov.**—Mr Dulles noted that the latest Soviet proposals on security had brought the two sides closer and he pointed out several similarities in the two plans. He believed that if agreement could be reached on unification, a security treaty could be agreed on the lines proposed.

Mr Macmillan said that he could not approach the problem of security except on the basis of a united Germany, and he repeated that the western Powers would not dissolve N.A.T.O.

Mr Molotov protested against the exclusion of German representatives and said it was 'tantamount to closing the door to fruitful discussion of the German problem'. He said that any settlement of the German problem must preclude the possibility of a remilitarized Germany menacing the world again. The two Germanys must take part in any security system. The western proposals did not provide any real guarantees. Their only guarantee was that the united Germany would join N.A.T.O. as the western pact would only enter into force after the reunited Germany had joined N.A.T.O. They gave no guarantee in the event of Germany breaking all its agreements and forming military groupings. Only the Soviet plan contained safeguards against this.

Mr Molotov agreed with the east German memorandum that reunification could not take place at the expense of east German social achievements. He said that a time would come when all-German elections would be possible, but in existing circumstances unification could not be discussed in an 'isolated way without regard to the existence of the two separate German States and when not even the first steps had been taken to bring them together'. Unification was possible only by the setting up of a system of European security, the easing of tension, and

**Four-Power Conference of Foreign Ministers** (*continued*)

the gradual *rapprochement* of the two Germanys. As a first step, Mr Molotov proposed that within three months all foreign troops should be withdrawn from Germany to within their own national frontiers except for 'certain well-controlled armed contingents'.

**Soviet Proposal for all-German Council.** Mr Molotov then tabled a plan for the establishment of an all-German council to co-ordinate the political, economic, and cultural life of the German people and for co-operation with other States in the consolidation of peace. It proposed that the council should be a consultative body composed of representatives of the two Parliaments and that mixed committees on matters relating to economic and cultural relations should be set up under the council, composed of representatives of the two Governments. The council would be charged with bringing about accord on (1) matters relating to the forces and armaments needed for defence of the two States; (2) on matters relating to the participation of the two States in 'measures designed to consolidate European security'; and (3) 'on questions pertaining to the bringing about of prerequisites for the unification of Germany as a peaceful and democratic State'.

**FRANCE. 20 Oct.—The Saar.** The Foreign Minister, M. Pinay, in a statement on the Saar to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Assembly, said that rejection of the Saar agreement of 23 October 1945 would make it impossible for any Government or Parliament to reopen negotiations.

**Ministerial Change.** The Prime Minister, M. Faure, announced that responsibility for relations with the Associated States, and with Morocco and Tunisia, would return to the Foreign Ministry; M. July, who had been Minister of Tunisian and Moroccan Affairs, would replace M. Palewski as Minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office.

**Mme Ollier.** Mme Ollier, the former member of the French Embassy staff in Canberra who was mentioned in the Petrov case, was acquitted by a military tribunal of non-denunciation of acts prejudicial to national defence.

**23 Oct.—Saar Referendum** (*see Saar Free Territory*).

**24 Oct.**—Exchange of telegrams between Dr Adenauer and M. Faure on the Saar referendum (*see Germany*).

**The Saar.** The Government issued a statement saying that, in view of the rejection of the European statute, the problem had been posed afresh of finding a solution which would take into account the will of the Saar people and serve German-French co-operation and the goal of the European community.

**25 Oct.**—Meeting of North Atlantic Council (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

**Election Bill.** M. Faure, Prime Minister, tabled a Bill providing for a general election in the first half of December.

**26 Oct.—Indo-China.** Following the plebiscite in South Vietnam in favour of the deposition of Emperor Bao Dai, the Government announced its recognition of M. Diem as head of the South Vietnam State.

**Western Foreign Ministers' Meeting.** The Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, and the United States (Mr Macmillan, M. Pinay, and Mr Dulles) met in Paris to discuss the forthcoming four-Power conference at Geneva. They were joined in the afternoon by Herr von Brentano, Federal German Foreign Minister.

**Israel.** Mr Sharett, Israeli Prime Minister, called on Mr Macmillan at the British Embassy and put forward a request that the Czechoslovak-Egyptian arms deal should be prevented, and failing that, that Israel should be provided with arms and a security guarantee. It was afterwards learned that Mr Macmillan declined the request for arms as he felt this would merely precipitate an arms race.

Mr Sharett also saw Mr Dulles.

**27 Oct. et seq.—Four-Power Conference of Foreign Ministers, q.v.**

**28 Oct.—Vote of Confidence.** The National Assembly voted confidence in M. Faure by 271 votes to 259. Of the 75 deputies of M. Faure's Radical party, 10 voted against M. Faure and 15 abstained or were absent.

**29 Oct.—**South Vietnam denunciation of monetary agreement with France (*see Indo-China*).

**30 Oct.—**Abdication of Sultan ben Arafa (*see Morocco*).

**Elections and Electoral Reform.** The National Assembly began a three-day debate on the Government's Bill for general elections in December and on reform of the electoral law.

**31 Oct.—Algeria.** The Minister of the Interior stated after a meeting of the Cabinet that owing to the unsettled state of Algeria it would not be possible to organize elections there at the same time as in France.

**Morocco.** Sidi Mohammed ben Yussef, former Sultan of Morocco, arrived in France from Madagascar.

**1 Nov.—**Sidi Mohammed ben Yussef held discussions in Paris with M. Pinay, who had returned from the Geneva conference specially to welcome him.

In a statement to the press afterwards the ex-Sultan said that he was more than ever convinced that the Moroccan people could count upon French friendship, upon the traditional French sense of freedom and justice, and upon all the moral and spiritual qualities of France. A new era was opening which would mark a decisive turning point in the history of the country.

The former Sultan also talked with the Prime Minister designate of Morocco, ben Slimane, who together with the members of the Council of the Throne had come to Paris.

**Election Bill.** M. Faure put the question of confidence on the Government's Bill for elections in December, following a series of negative votes on various proposals for a new electoral system culminating in the rejection of the Government's proposals by 459 to 145.

**2 Nov.—Morocco.** Sidi Mohammed ben Yussef received the resignation of the four members of the Council of the Throne.

**Election Bill.** M. Faure obtained a majority of 119 (330 votes to 211) on the vote of confidence on the Government's Bill for early elections. The Communists voted for the Bill, the Socialists against.



**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE.** 27 Oct.—**Japan.** On the opening day of the tenth session in Geneva, the United States delegate regretted that so many of the contracting parties, while having accepted Japanese participation, had excluded Japan from enjoyment of normal rights and obligations under G.A.T.T.

28 Oct.—The Japanese delegate also expressed disappointment that so many of the contracting parties had invoked article 35 (the escape clause enabling them not to extend the G.A.T.T. provisions) against Japan.

**GERMANY.** 22 Oct.—**Release of Sepp Dietrich.** Sepp Dietrich, former commander of Hitler's bodyguard and Commander-in-Chief of the S.S., was released from the war criminals' prison at Landsberg. He had been sentenced to life imprisonment by a United States war crimes court in 1946.

23 Oct.—**Saar Referendum** (*see Saar Free Territory*).

24 Oct.—**The Saar.** Dr Adenauer, Federal Chancellor, sent the French Prime Minister, M. Faure, a telegram reaffirming his conviction that the result of the Saar referendum should not, and would not, prejudice Franco-German good relations.

M. Faure, replying, said he was convinced that the outcome of the referendum would not divert the two Governments from the paths they had taken; the new difficulties made the task harder, but they would not weaken their common will to serve the cause of freedom and Franco-German understanding.

Herr Blücher, the Free Democratic Vice-Chancellor, said that he thoroughly approved the Saar people's decision to reject the European statute.

27 Oct.—Western Note to Russia on control of traffic between Berlin and west Germany (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**Four-Power Conference of Foreign Ministers, q.v.**

30 Oct.—**West Germany. New Union.** A new 'Christian trade union movement' was founded at Essen. It appealed to all trade unionists of 'Christian persuasions' to join it and leave the D.G.B., the trades union congress.

31 Oct.—**Repatriation of Russians.** It was learned that the chairman of the Soviet committee in Berlin for the repatriation of Russians had written to the Federal Minister of the Interior requesting the assistance of the Federal German Government in the repatriation of more than 100,000 Soviet citizens alleged to be in west Germany. He asked that announcements should be made over the radio and in the press guaranteeing safe passage to all wishing to leave for the Soviet Union. (The letter was sent at a time when anxiety was being aroused in west Germany by the unexplained halt, more than a week earlier, in the repatriation of the promised 9,626 prisoners from Russia, of whom only half had so far arrived.)

**East Germany.** Church officials announced that the east German Government had seized all copies of two Evangelical weeklies recently published in the east Berlin area.



East German proposals for reunification (*see Four-Power Conference*).

**1 Nov.—East Germany.** The Socialist Unity Party issued a statement declaring that free elections were unacceptable in existing circumstances (*i.e.* west German membership of N.A.T.O. and W.E.U. and west German rearmament). It said they were being proposed in order to 'enslave the German people' and prepare a new war. Reunification could only be achieved as the result of the people's fight against militarism in western Germany and the general strengthening of the forces of peace and understanding. The statement demanded the establishment of a European security system by the Great Powers and consultations on equal terms between the two German Governments on reunification, also pressure by the Social Democrats, the Communist Party, and the trade unions on the Federal Government to abandon its policy of rearmament.

**2 Nov.—West Germany. Comment on Soviet Proposals.** Herr von Brentano, Federal German Foreign Minister, strongly condemned in a broadcast Mr Molotov's proposals for Germany put forward at the Geneva conference of Foreign Ministers. He said that the Soviet Government was 'departing from the agreed directive in an intolerable manner and obstructing a favourable outcome of the conference'. He repudiated the talk of the so-called 'achievements' of the German Democratic Republic, and said that the east German statement had provided a commentary on the Soviet proposals which 'in brutal frankness, leaves nothing to be desired'.

**GOA. 26 Oct.**—It was announced that a Portuguese guard had been killed and two other guards wounded in an attack on a police post near Panjim by five armed men who attempted to seize arms.

**GREAT BRITAIN. 21 Oct.—Zanzibar.** A letter from the Colonial Secretary to the British Resident in Zanzibar was published, giving general approval to the proposed measures for constitutional development (*see No. 19, p. 653*).

Egyptian approach to international commission on Sudan (*see Egypt*).

**22 Oct.**—British representations to Egypt *re* the Sudan (*see Egypt*).

**Egyptian-Syrian Pact.** The Foreign Office issued a statement saying that it could not welcome the Egyptian-Syrian defence agreement since it was conceived in hostility to the Turco-Iraqi pact to which Britain had adhered.

O.E.E.C. report on U.K. economy (*see Organization for European Economic Co-operation*).

**23 Oct.**—Egyptian protest *re* the Sudan (*see Egypt*).

**24 Oct.**—Meeting of western Foreign Ministers (*see France*).

**Portugal.** President Lopes of Portugal arrived in London with Mme Lopes on a four-day State visit.

British criticism of U.N. draft covenant on human rights (*see United Nations, General Assembly*).

**25 Oct.—Defence Organization.** Sir Anthony Eden, Prime Minister, announced in Parliament changes in the defence organiza-

**Great Britain** (*continued*)

tion designed to strengthen the power of the Ministry of Defence, and also the appointment of Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir William Dickson to the new post of chairman of the chiefs of staff committee.

**Royal Visit to Nigeria.** It was announced that the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh would visit Nigeria early in 1956.

**26 Oct.—Economic Measures.** The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Butler, introducing a supplementary budget in Parliament, announced increases of one-fifth in purchase tax to 30, 60, and 90 per cent, and of 5 per cent in profits tax to 27½ per cent, and the abolition of the Exchequer housing subsidy except where applied to slum clearance and rehousing of excess population. The increased yield from the changes was estimated at £15 m. for the rest of 1955 and £112.5 m. in a full year.

**Buraimi Dispute.** The Prime Minister, in a statement to the House on the dispute with Saudi Arabia, after recapitulating the facts concerning the dispute, announced that the Government had advised the Ruler of Abu Dhabi and the Sultan of Muscat that the attempt to reach a just compromise by means of arbitration had failed, and the forces of these rulers, supported by the Trucial Oman levies, had that morning resumed control of the Buraimi oasis and areas to the west of it. According to the latest information, the Saudi force had been evacuated from the oasis, their only casualties being two men slightly wounded. Sir Anthony Eden went on to say that the Government and the rulers concerned had no doubt that legally they would be entitled to regard the line known as the 1952 line as a fair frontier between the Ruler of Abu Dhabi and Saudi Arabia. In order to be conciliatory, however, they had decided to declare and uphold a line more favourable to Saudi Arabia, namely the modified Riyadh line. This line, when proposed by Britain in 1935, involved substantial concessions to Saudi Arabia and it was further modified in favour of Saudi Arabia in 1937.

(It was later announced that in reoccupying the oasis the forces of the rulers and the levies had lost two dead and three wounded.)

Saudi Arabian statement (*see Saudi Arabia*).

**27 Oct. et seq.—Four-Power Conference of Foreign Ministers, q.v.**  
Financial agreement with Iraq (*see Iraq*).

Saudi Arabian statement on Buraimi dispute (*see Egypt*).

Western Note to Russia on Germany (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**28 Oct.—Somaliland.** Reports reaching London said that on nine occasions Somali tribal elders in the areas recently handed over to Ethiopia had been arrested and detained by the Ethiopian authorities. On eight of these occasions the elders had been released after repeated protests by British liaison staff, but no apologies or explanations had been offered. The ninth case was that of Chief Local Authority Mahomed Bogorrah, who was still in Giggia gaol, being accused of collecting money from his tribe 'for an illegal purpose', *i.e.*, to assist the Somali appeal to the United Nations against the recent transfer.

Twelve Somalis had been killed in the past week in fighting between tribes in the grazing area on the Ethiopian-British Somaliland border.

Five were from a British protected tribe, and the others from a tribe in Ethiopia.

**29 Oct.—Buraimi Dispute.** The Saudi Arabian Embassy issued a statement laying all responsibility for the threat to security and peace in the Buraimi area on the British Government. It said that the British had attacked with tanks and planes and fifteen Saudi Arabian police had been captured.

The Foreign Office announced that a protest had been received from the Saudi Arabian Government concerning the occupation of the Buraimi oasis. It said that the fifteen Saudi Arabian policemen had been repatriated.

British and Saudi Arabian letters to Security Council (*see United Nations, Security Council*).

Egyptian approval of plebiscite for the Sudan (*see Egypt*).

**31 Oct.—Censure Motion.** A Labour motion in the Commons censuring the budget proposals was defeated by 329 votes to 261.

**Supply of Arms to Middle East.** Mr Nutting, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, in replying to a question in the Commons, said the Government did not think it was the right moment to give a guarantee of Israel's frontiers as they wished to guarantee a settlement in the area and not to guarantee the existing unsettled state of affairs. The Government, in a difficult position, had to steer a middle course between the two extremes of an arms race in competition with the Soviet *bloc* and a ban on arms deliveries which would drive countries to less responsible suppliers.

**1 Nov.—Buraimi Oasis.** A statement issued by the Sultan of Muscat on 31 October was received in London. It said that three years earlier in the middle of negotiations about the frontier, when Turki Bin Utaishan and a Saudi force had entered the Buraimi oasis, he (the Sultan) and his subjects had wished to take immediate steps to force him to withdraw but had been advised by the British Government to agree to a policy of arbitration. The arbitration proceedings had shown that the Saudi Arabian Government were determined to prevent a just settlement by legal means and to influence the inhabitants by bribery and intimidation. In this way the Saudis had caused the failure of the attempts at arbitration, and no alternative remained but to restore the Sultan's administration. This was done by the Sultan's forces with the support of Trucial Oman levies, and administration was now in the hands of the Sultan's representatives who would restore peaceful and orderly Government and advise the Sultan on measures for economic development.

**2 Nov.—The Sudan.** Lord Reading, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, in a reply in the House of Lords to a question on the situation in southern Sudan, said the Government believed strongly that the future interests of the Sudan could only be served if the Sudan Government's authority was maintained and strengthened. Existing difficulties could only be solved if the Sudan Government earnestly sought a solution with all parties. He was glad there were signs that it realized the necessity for such action.

**GREECE. 24 Oct.**—Turkish ceremonies of moral reparation to Greece (*see Turkey*).

**25 Oct.**—**Turkey.** Following the Turkish symbolic reparation to Greece at the ceremony at Smyrna, the Government announced that Greek armed forces would again participate in N.A.T.O. joint exercises. A spokesman said that relations would become normal when proof of the Turkish Government's good intentions was given in indemnifying the Greek minority for damages incurred during the riots.

**28 Oct.**—**Enosis.** Forty-four people were injured in clashes between the police and pro-Enosis students who had defied a ban on demonstrations.

**1 Nov.**—**Anti-British Riots.** Schoolchildren demonstrating in Patras in favour of Enosis, destroyed furniture and books in the British Institute of Studies and broke windows at the American information centre. The police in dispersing the crowds were compelled to open fire. Forty policemen and nineteen demonstrators were injured. Three children were seriously wounded by firearms and fifty were arrested.

**Cyprus.** Archbishop Makarios, who had arrived from Cyprus, held talks with the Prime Minister, Mr Karamanlis, and the Foreign Minister, M. Theotokis.

**GUATEMALA. 31 Oct.**—President Armas arrived in Washington on a three-day State visit to the United States.

**HONG KONG. 31 Oct.**—An American woman, Mrs Mills, on her arrival in Hong Kong after being released from more than four years' imprisonment in China, said that she was guilty of espionage for the United States and Britain and that the Chinese had been quite justified in arresting her. She had given the British such information as the composition of the proposed Chinese delegation to the United Nations, and to the Americans 'the attitude of students and teachers at Peking University'. She had not been paid for the information. She said that she had been chained and handcuffed at intervals for several months but did not consider that as torture. She described Communist prisons as places 'of hope', but denied that she was a Communist, saying she was 'not worthy' to be one. She was convinced that the United States had used germ warfare in the Korean war.

**INDIA. 21 Oct.**—**U.S.S.R.** Mr Malaviya, Minister for National Resources, announced that seven Soviet technicians were expected to arrive soon to assist Government-sponsored exploration for oil.

**22 Oct.**—**Great Britain.** Lord Home, U.K. Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, in an address to the Indian Council of World Affairs in Delhi, said: 'Three times in half a century we held out the olive branch of conciliation—to the Kaiser, to Hitler, to Stalin—and the lessons we and our friends in Europe have learned in a bitter school is that weakness invites aggression and that neutrality has no meaning in the context of totalitarian ambition. To match strength with strength has

been the policy of risk which to you in Asia might seem unnecessary and dangerous, but the North Atlantic treaty corresponded to the instructive and genuine need for self-preservation which was felt in western Europe."

**26 Oct.**—Goa frontier incident (*see Goa*).

**INDO-CHINA. 20 Oct.—South Vietnam.** The Chief of Staff of the South Vietnam Army, General Le Van Ty, the whole officer corps, and some of the men, voted to deprive the Emperor Bao Dai of his citizenship and wealth in Vietnam, and in favour of the Prime Minister, M. Diem, becoming President.

**22 Oct.—Hoa Hao Sect.** The Hoa Hao sect issued a statement declaring the plebiscite on the deposition of the Emperor to be illegal and saying that its followers would abstain from voting. It suggested that the whole problem of the future of the regime be submitted to 'a truly representative assembly'.

Polling booths in the Cao Lanh-Sades area south-west of Saigon were shelled by the Hoa Hao sect's army. One person was reported killed and forty wounded.

**23 Oct.—South Vietnam Referendum.** A referendum was held on whether or not the Emperor Bao Dai should be deposed and replaced as head of State by M. Ngo Dinh Diem, the Prime Minister. It was later announced that the result was a 98 per cent vote in favour of M. Diem.

**24 Oct.**—The French and United States Governments announced that they would recognize M. Diem as head of the South Vietnam State.

**25 Oct.**—The South Vietnam Ministry of Information announced the result of the referendum as follows: for M. Diem 5,721,735; for Bao Dai, 63,017.

**26 Oct.—Proclamation of Republic.** M. Diem proclaimed Southern Vietnam to be a Republic with himself as both President and head of the Government.

**29 Oct.—South Vietnam.** M. Diem renewed the mandate of the Government which had collectively resigned after the proclamation of a republic. The official list described the members of the Government as 'Secretaries' and no longer as 'Ministers'.

M. Diem announced that the Government's first task would be the framing of a constitution and this would be followed by early elections for a National Assembly.

**Franco-Vietnam Monetary Agreement.** M. Diem informed the French Government of Vietnam's denunciation of the monetary agreement, signed with France on 30 December 1954, which provided for free monetary transfers and unlimited trade between the two countries.

**31 Oct.**—M. Diem assumed the title of supreme commander of the armed forces.

**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION. 29 Oct.—Unesco Dismissals.** The administrative tribunal of I.L.O. condemned the action of Dr Evans, Director-General of Unesco, in dismissing four



**International Labour Organization** (*continued*)

American officials of the organization for their refusal to appear before a United States loyalty board (*see No. 13, p. 430*). All four were awarded damages in lieu of reinstatement.

**IRAQ. 27 Oct.—Great Britain.** The Finance Minister announced an agreement with Britain under which Iraq would be allowed to buy £5 m. worth of gold from Britain, and dates from Iraq would be imported duty free into the United Kingdom in return for the lifting of certain duties by Iraq. Britain also agreed to provide, when necessary, \$2 m. to cover Iraq's obligation to the International Monetary Fund, and to an increase in the Iraq dollar working balance.

**31 Oct.**—Iraqi approaches to Syria (*see Syria*) and Lebanon (*see Lebanon*).

**ISRAEL. 23 Oct.**—Mr Sharett, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, left for Paris and Geneva to put before the western Foreign Ministers Israel's case for an arms and security pact with the United States.

The response to date to the Prime Minister's appeal for contributions for arms was stated to exceed £800,000 (Israeli) or £160,000 sterling.

**Syria: Border Incident.** It was announced that five Syrian soldiers, including an officer and a sergeant, had been taken prisoner.

A United Nations statement said that two Israeli groups of soldiers had crossed the Syrian border in the vicinity of Aalmine and, according to Syrian reports, one officer and two soldiers had been killed, six soldiers wounded, and one officer and five soldiers missing. The statement recalled that the Security Council had strongly condemned the policy of retaliation. (The incident was presumably a reprisal for the capture of an Israeli soldier on 18 October by Syrians.)

**24 Oct.**—The Knesset adopted by 84 votes to 5 (Communists) a motion expressing anxiety over the large shipments of arms to Egypt and the continued arming of Iraq and other Arab States, and urging the Government to marshal the people to meet the dangers, to increase the strength of the defence forces, and to demand arms for Israel from the Powers.

**Appeal to Security Council.** It was learned that the Israeli delegation to the United Nations had written to the Security Council informing it of 'the grave situation' on the Israeli-Syrian border and referring particularly to the ambush and abduction of an Israeli soldier on 18 October. The letter also alleged Syrian complicity in 'the campaign of murder and sabotage' which, it said, had been waged recently in northern Israel by Egyptian-controlled Fedayeen (self-sacrificers) from bases in Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan.

**26 Oct.—Frontier Incident.** It was announced that one member of the Israeli frontier force had been killed, three wounded, and two kidnapped, in an Egyptian attack on an Israeli check post in the Auja demilitarized zone. A complaint was lodged in the U.N. truce commission. (*See also Egypt.*)

Mr Sharett's talks in Paris (*see France*).



**28 Oct.—Reprisal Action.** The Army authorities announced that a reprisal action had been taken against Egypt at Kuntilla in the Auja area in which ten Egyptian soldiers had been killed and twenty-nine prisoners taken. Fifteen army vehicles had been destroyed and a considerable quantity of arms captured, including some with Spanish markings. It was stated that the action was a reprisal for an Egyptian action which began on 26 October when Egyptians had invaded Israeli territory and killed one Israeli, wounded three, and captured two. The Egyptians were said to be still in occupation of over one square mile of Israeli territory in the Nitzana area.

Egyptian statement (*see Egypt*).

Syrian complaint to Security Council against Israel (*see Syria*).

**29 Oct.**—An Israeli communiqué alleged that Egyptian infantry had launched two attacks in the Nirim area, near Gaza, both of which were repelled. Another communiqué said that Egyptian units had taken up positions south of the El Auja demilitarized zone and almost a mile within Israeli territory in support of troops which had entered the area three days previously.

**U.N. Appeal.** General Burns, chief of the U.N. truce supervisory organization, sent letters to the Egyptian Foreign Minister and the Israeli representative at the United Nations calling attention to the serious situation in the area of the El Auja demilitarized zone and requesting both parties to issue orders to their forces to cease all aggressive activities and retaliation.

**30 Oct.**—The Government announced that it had been informed by the truce supervisory organization that its requests to Egypt to withdraw her troops from the position they occupied in the El Auja zone had met with no response. Egyptian troops were still entrenched in Israeli territory, holding a line in depth throughout the southern part of the zone.

Israelis admitted that their forces had set up one outpost in the El Auja area after the Egyptians had begun spreading over the territory on 26 October. They said it would be withdrawn 'simultaneously with the withdrawal of Egyptian troops'.

The Army reported that Egyptians had sent a strong force on 29 October into Es-Subha at the southern end of the demilitarized zone.

**31 Oct.**—An Egyptian attack on the Israeli military post at Nirim, opposite Khan Yunis, was reported. The Egyptians were stated to have withdrawn after the arrival of an Israeli unit. There were no Israeli casualties.

Military headquarters also reported that Egyptian fighter aircraft flew over the Auja demilitarized zone on 30 October.

British statement on Israel (*see Great Britain*).

**1 Nov.**—Three Egyptians were killed when they crossed into Israeli territory east of the Gaza strip. A clash was also reported near Kissufim, an Israeli settlement close to the Gaza demarcation line. There were no casualties.

**2 Nov.—New Government.** Mr Ben Gurion (Mapai) presented to the Knesset a five-party coalition Government which included members

**Israel** (*continued*)

of Mapai, Ahdut Avoda, Progressives, Mapam, and the Mizrahi group. Mr Ben Gurion himself, in addition to the Premiership, also took the Defence portfolio. Other appointments included: *Foreign Affairs*, Mr Sharett (Mapai); *Finance*, Mr Levi Eshkol (Mapai); *Interior*, Mr Israel Bar-Yehuda (Ahdut Avoda); *Justice*, Mr Pinhas Rosen (Progressives).

Mr Ben Gurion said that Arab rulers had the opportunity to show what they really wanted—war or peace. He was prepared to meet with the Prime Minister of Egypt as soon as possible, and with other Arab rulers, in order to work out a mutual settlement without any prior conditions. The Government was ready to conclude a lasting peace settlement and to enter into long-term political, economic, and cultural co-operation with Israel's neighbours, or they would agree to 'a limited settlement'.

Regarding the 'commercial transaction' of the Czechoslovak sale of arms to Egypt, he said that the sale of poison to a known murderer could also be called a 'commercial transaction'. He blamed Britain for selling to Egypt arms which were denied to Israel, and the United States for supplying arms to Iraq, 'a country which has gone so far as to refuse to sign even an armistice agreement with us'. He said that it was his duty 'to tell all the Powers that rule the world . . . that the people of Israel will not be led like cattle to the slaughter'. The people of Israel had fought for their very existence and 'any aggressive design' against them was 'bound to lead to a dangerous explosion, the results of which cannot be foreseen'. In such an eventuality responsibility would fall 'both on those who supply arms to the many aggressors and on those who deny arms to the few defenders'.

**ITALY. 27 Oct.**—A bomb exploded in Rome near the headquarters of the (Communist-dominated) trade union federation, C.G.I.L., causing damage and slight injury to one person. Thirty-five persons, mostly members of extreme right-wing organizations, were arrested.

**JAPAN. 27 Oct.**—U.S. protest *re* treatment of Japan (*see General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade*).

**28 Oct.**—Japanese protest *re* G.A.T.T. (*see General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade*).

**JORDAN. 31 Oct.**—**Oil Concession.** The Cabinet approved an agreement providing for the grant of an oil concession to an American company.

**Syria.** Said el Ghazzi, Prime Minister of Syria, arrived and held discussions with the Prime Minister and the Cabinet. A joint statement issued afterwards said that the policy of both Governments was based on 'the consideration that the armistice demarcation line is one Arabic defensive line' and that 'any aggression on any part of that line shall be considered aggression on all of its parts'. The statement added that Syrian and Jordanian representatives had studied the practical steps that should be taken to fulfil that policy and 'their view-points were alike'.

**1 Nov.**—King Hussein opened Parliament. His speech from the Throne, read by the Prime Minister, emphasized that the Palestine problem must be settled in complete understanding between all Arab countries and that no weight should be given to outside efforts to get them to agree to direct or indirect negotiations. They would not give away the smallest part of the right of Arab refugees to return to their homes and have their property restored.

Said el-Mufti, Prime Minister, said that Jordan would shortly reinforce her Army and National Guard, provide them with heavy modern weapons, and build up an effective air force.

**KENYA. 28 Oct.**—The Chief Secretary announced the Government's decision to set up a regional broadcasting service at Mombasa because of hostile propaganda and undesirable programmes outside Kenya which were received particularly clearly in the coastal areas.

**2 Nov.**—An English woman and her young daughter were found murdered in their bungalow near Nakuru.

**LEBANON. 31 Oct.**—Iraq. The Iraq Ambassador informed the Foreign Minister, Salim Lahhoud, that Iraq would favour a tripartite pact between Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq but that if that were impossible she would accept as an alternative a bilateral pact and economic agreement with Lebanon.

**U.S.S.R.** The Soviet Minister in Beirut informed the Foreign Minister that Russia would not grant Israel any aid or guarantee but would maintain the *status quo* in the Middle East. Assurances had also been received from the American, British, and French envoys that their Governments held fast to the tripartite declaration of 1950 and did not intend to give any new guarantee or aid to Israel.

**MALAYA. 20 Oct.**—A Malay special constable was killed and a European estate manager seriously wounded, in a terrorist ambush in northern Johore.

**29 Oct.**—The Government declared an area covering 3,464 square miles of Pahang State in central Malaya to be 'white', *i.e.*, virtually free of terrorists and no longer subject to emergency regulations.

**Singapore: Labour Front Split.** Mr Lazarous, following his election as President of the Singapore Labour Front, walked out of the party's conference with seventy followers after refusing to accede to a majority vote cast in favour of a demand by Mr Marshall, the Chief Minister, for a check on delegates' identity cards. Mr Lazarous' election to the vice-presidency was then declared null and void.

**MOROCCO. 20 Oct.**—The Democratic Independence Party announced its agreement with the institution of the Council of the Throne.

Several bombs were thrown at a police station in a suburb of Oran. The police opened fire, killing one man.

**21 Oct.**—**Istiqlal Party.** The Istiqlal executive committee issued a statement announcing that it would not support the Council of the

**Morocco** (*continued*)

Throne which it claimed to be inconsistent with the agreements reached at the Aix-les-Bains conference. It also complained that the exiled Sultan had not yet been transferred to France where he could better appreciate the situation, and it criticized the French Government's statement of policy, saying that it was inadequate because it was based on the 1912 protectorate treaty which was incompatible with the exercise of Moroccan sovereignty and the realization of Moroccan independence 'in the framework of relationships of interdependence freely negotiated.'

**Disorders.** Rioting broke out in Rabat in favour of the ex-Sultan ben Yussef. Three Moroccans were reported to have been killed when the police opened fire.

**22 Oct.—Council of the Throne.** Si Bekkai published a telegram from ex-Sultan ben Yussef approving the Council of the Throne as constituted and urging the political parties to accept it.

**25 Oct.—Statement by El Glaoui.** El Glaoui, Pasha of Marrakesh, issued a statement calling for the immediate restoration to the throne of the ex-Sultan, ben Yussef; expressing gratitude to France and Frenchmen for their help in providing a solution to the Moroccan crisis; and declaring his aim to be Moroccan independence within a framework of Franco-Moroccan inter-dependence. The statement was read by the Pasha's son, who said that his father denied the legitimacy of the Council of the Throne. It was later announced, however, from the Imperial palace that El Glaoui, in visiting the Council of the Throne, had expressed his complete allegiance to it.

**26 Oct.**—El Glaoui issued another statement saying that he had never ceased, and still did not cease, to deny the legitimacy of the Council of the Throne.

The Pasha of Meknès, Si Moktar, and other notables, including the Pasha of Beni Mellal and Pasha Bouameur of Zaers, announced their approval of El Glaoui's declaration.

El Glaoui was welcomed with wild enthusiasm by a huge crowd on his return to Marrakesh from Rabat. There were two incidents in which French police fired, killing three demonstrators and wounding nine.

**Istiqlal Party.** The Istiqlal issued another statement saying that the decision of the Pasha of Marrakesh had made the Aix agreements, 'which were based upon the pretended existence of a Moroccan opposition' to the restoration of the ex-Sultan, completely out of date and deprived the Council of the Throne of all reasons for existing.

**28 Oct.**—The Council of the Throne relieved Prince Moulay Abdullah of his duties as 'delegate of the seal' for the retired Sultan, Moulay ben Arafa.

The Prime Minister designate, Ben Slimane, declared in a broadcast that the return of Ben Yussef to the throne was 'the key to the solution of the Moroccan problem'.

**29 Oct.**—Mustapha ben Raissi Bouchaid, Moroccan vice-President of *Présence Française*, the French settlers' group, was shot dead in Casablanca by a terrorist who escaped.

**30 Oct.—Abdication of Sultan ben Arafa.** Sultan Mohammed ben Arafa announced his abdication in favour of ex-Sultan ben Yussef in a letter to President Coty from his residence in Tangier.

Ex-Sultan Sidi Mohammed ben Yussef left Madagascar by air for France.

**31 Oct.—Arrival of ex-Sultan ben Yussef in France** (*see France*).

**1 Nov.—Statement by ex-Sultan ben Yussef** (*see France*).

**2 Nov.—Resignation of the Council of the Throne** (*see France*).

**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. 25 Oct.—**The North Atlantic Council met to discuss the forthcoming Geneva conference of Foreign Ministers. A communiqué issued afterwards made clear that the plans for the conference of the British, French, and United States Foreign Ministers had been approved by the Council with some modification.

**ORGANIZATION FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. 22 Oct.—**The O.E.E.C. issued an annual report on the United Kingdom. It emphasized the need for a 'significant' restraint of domestic demand and a considerable export effort in order to correct the balance of payments position, and said that such development as restriction of fixed investments as well as consumption and stock building carried with them the danger that 'industrial re-equipment and expansion—the need for which has constantly been emphasized in official statements—may be impeded . . .' On the long-term prospects the report observed that much depended upon Britain's ability to retain her existing share of world trade, which had recently been diminishing, particularly in the non-sterling area.

**PARAGUAY. 2 Nov.—**Senor Perón, former President of Argentina, left the country by air for Nicaragua.

**PERSIA. 23 Oct.—Baghdad Pact.** The Majlis unanimously approved the adherence of Persia to the Baghdad pact.

**27 Oct.—**On the occasion of his birthday, the Shah gave ownership deeds to 280 peasants on Crown estates as part of a land distribution programme.

**POLAND. 1 Nov.—**Burmese-Polish trade agreement (*see Burma*).

**PORTUGAL. 24 Oct.—**State visit to Britain of President and Mme Lopes (*see Great Britain*).

**26 Oct.—**Goa frontier incident (*see Goa*).

**28 Oct.—**Chinese demand for return of Macao (*see China*).

**SAAR FREE TERRITORY. 22 Oct.—**M. Dehousse, the Belgian president of the international commission appointed to supervise the referendum, broadcast a statement explaining the effects which the result of the referendum would have on the future situation in the Saar.

**Saar Free Territory** (*continued*)

**23 Oct.—Referendum on European Statute.** In the referendum on the European statute, 96.7 per cent of the electorate voted. The result was: 423,434 votes against the statute and 201,973 for the statute.

**24 Oct.**—Herr Hoffmann and his Government resigned. Herr Hoffman suggested as his successor Dr Heinrich Welsch, an experienced administrator.

**Herr von Papen.** Herr Franz von Papen, Ambassador in Vienna under Hitler, returned to Wallerfangen, near Saarbrücken, and was received with a torchlight procession of villagers. He had previously been forbidden entry into the Saar.

**29 Oct.—New Government.** The Landtag elected Herr Welsch as Prime Minister and approved a new interim Government of four Ministers. It was decided that the Landtag should be dissolved on 17 December and elections for a new Landtag held on 18 December.

**SAUDI ARABIA. 24 Oct.**—Syrian Prime Minister on his visit to Saudi Arabia (*see Syria*).

**26 Oct.**—British statement on Buraimi dispute announcing re-occupation of the oasis (*see Great Britain*).

**Buraimi Dispute.** The Saudi Arabian delegate to the United Nations, in a statement in New York on the Buraimi Oasis dispute with Britain, deplored the 'arbitrary' resort to force against 'the Saudi Arabian oasis', recalled the Saudi Arabian proposal for a plebiscite in the area, and accused Britain of deliberately sabotaging the efforts of the arbitration tribunal in order to force the issue to an armed conflict.

**27 Oct.—Egyptian-Saudi Arabian Defence Pact** (*see Egypt*).

Foreign Minister's statement on Buraimi oasis dispute (*see Egypt*).

**29 Oct.**—Saudi Arabian statement and protest to Britain *re* Buraimi (*see Great Britain*).

British and Saudi Arabian letters to United Nations (*see United Nations, Security Council*).

**30 Oct.**—The Government asked for an emergency meeting of the Arab League political committee to discuss the occupation of the Buraimi oasis.

**1 Nov.**—Statement on Buraimi dispute by Sultan of Muscat (*see Great Britain*).

**SOUTH AFRICA. 20 Oct.—United Party.** The Cape congress of the United Party reaffirmed its support for a common voters' roll for Europeans and the Coloured people, but it endorsed statements by Mr Strauss, leader of the party, declining to commit himself unconditionally to restore Coloured voters to the roll if returned to power, on the ground that the Senate Act had abolished the former entrenchment of the Coloured franchise.

**24 Oct.**—South African boycott of U.N. political committee (*see United Nations, General Assembly*).

**31 Oct.**—Debate on South-west Africa (*see United Nations, General Assembly*).



**SPAIN. 1 Nov.—United States.** Mr Dulles, United States Secretary of State, arrived in Madrid from Geneva and had discussions with General Franco and other Ministers. In a statement before leaving to return to the Four-Power Conference he said that 'the visit was not only to demonstrate United States friendship for Spain but to tend to increase such friendship'.

A statement issued by the Foreign Ministry said that Mr Dulles and General Franco had found themselves in mutual understanding with regard to problems affecting the peace and security of the free nations. The conversations had also been concerned with relations within the framework of U.S.-Spanish agreements on mutual defence assistance, economic aid, and defence support.

**SUDAN. 21 Oct.**—Egyptian invitations to international commission (*see Egypt*).

**22 Oct.**—British representations to Egypt (*see Great Britain*).

**23 Oct.**—Egyptian protest to Britain (*see Egypt*).

It was learnt that on 18 October, in a statement to the press, Ismail el Azhari, Prime Minister, had proposed that self-determination should be decided by a simple vote in the existing Sudanese Parliament, which would also draw up a constitution and draft electoral laws.

**29 Oct.**—Egyptian approval of plebiscite for self-determination (*see Egypt*).

**31 Oct.—Mutiny Trials.** It was learned that the Governor-General had confirmed ten death sentences imposed in connection with the revolt in Equatoria province, and that a further thirty-one sentences awaited his decision.

Thirty-two more southerners, including eighteen soldiers of the Equatoria Corps, were sentenced to death for murders committed during the insurrection.

**2 Nov.**—British statement on the Sudan (*see Great Britain*).

**SWITZERLAND. 31 Oct.—Elections.** The national elections resulted in a gain of four seats by the Socialists in the Second Chamber, making them the strongest party with 53 seats against 50 Radicals, 47 Catholic Conservatives, 22 Peasants' Party, 20 other bourgeois parties, and 4 Communists. In the First Chamber, pending a second ballot for two seats, 37 members of bourgeois parties were elected and 2 Socialists. Only 42 per cent of the electorate voted.

**SYRIA. 20 Oct.—Egyptian-Syrian Pact.** A military pact between Syria and Egypt was signed in Damascus. It provided for the establishment of a joint military command for 'all striking units, including troops concentrated on Palestine borders' and, at higher levels, for a war council consisting of the Chiefs of Staff of the two countries, and a supreme council including the Foreign and War Ministers. Egypt agreed to pay 65 per cent of the costs of 'military installations and bases'.

**23 Oct.**—Frontier incident (*see Israel*).

**24 Oct.—Saudi Arabia.** The Prime Minister, Said Ghazzi, said on

**Syria** (*continued*)

his return from leading a delegation to Saudi Arabia that King Saud had given his blessing to the Egyptian-Syrian agreement and had expressed readiness to offer any aid to Syria.

Israeli allegations against Syria in appeal to Security Council (*see Israel*).

**28 Oct.—Complaint to United Nations.** The Government sent a letter to the Security Council saying that 'aggressive acts' by Israel against Syria had increased during October. Six acts of aggression were listed as constituting conclusive proof of Israel's 'warlike intentions'.

**31 Oct.—Joint Syrian-Jordanian statement** (*see Jordan*).

**Iraq.** The Iraq Minister in Damascus informed President Shukri Kuwatli that Iraq would welcome a Syrian official delegation to negotiate military and economic agreements.

**2 Nov.**—Said Ghazzi, Prime Minister, saw the representatives of Britain, the United States, France, and Russia. He was reported to have told them of recent acts of 'aggression' by Israel and to have assured them that Syria would not stand by with folded hands.

The three western envoys were reported to have said that their Governments had no intention at present to give Israel arms and they expressed the wish that the supply of Communist arms to Arab States should be discontinued.

**TUNISIA. 20 Oct.**—Attack on mine by Algerian rebels (*see Algeria*).

**TURKEY. 21 Oct.**—A court at Izmir sentenced eight persons who had taken part in the anti-Greek riots of 6 September to terms of between six and eight months' imprisonment. Two others had already been sentenced to three years' imprisonment each.

**24 Oct.—Reparation to Greece.** At a ceremony at the new residence of the Greek Consulate in Smyrna, the Greek flag was raised by the Turkish Minister of Communications in the presence of the Greek Ambassador, Turkish civil and military representatives, and consuls of N.A.T.O. countries.

At another ceremony—a meeting held by the military commander of Smyrna attended by Turkish officers and men of the N.A.T.O. south-eastern command—apologies were tendered to Greek officers for the insults made to their uniforms during the anti-Greek riots on 6 September.

**25 Oct.**—Greek statement on relations with Turkey (*see Greece*).

**28 Oct.**—Two newspapers—the Democratic Party organ, *Ulus*, and the People's Party organ *Zafer*—were suppressed indefinitely by order of the commander of martial law, for having published articles mentioning the Army in connection with domestic politics.

**UNITED NATIONS**

**30 Oct.—Togoland.** A United Nations mission which had recently visited west Africa, submitted a report recommending a plebiscite in Togoland to decide the territory's future.

### Disarmament Commission

**21 Oct.**—The Commission met at the request of the Soviet representative. During the debate Mr Nutting (U.K.) said the Russian proposals on control were too vague, and he regretted the Russian failure to elucidate them. After an inconclusive discussion, the commission adjourned without fixing the date of its next meeting. The Soviet representative had proposed 26 October (the day before the Foreign Ministers' meeting at Geneva), but he received no support.

### General Assembly

**20 Oct.—Economic and Social Council.** Final elections to the six vacant seats on the Economic and Social Council added Brazil and Greece to the previously elected United States, Canada, Indonesia, and Yugoslavia.

**Trusteeship Council.** Guatemala and Syria were elected to two vacant seats on the Trusteeship Council.

**24 Oct.—Human Rights.** In the social and humanitarian committee the U.K. delegate, Mr Hoare, made a strong attack on the first paragraph of the draft covenant on human rights which stated: 'All peoples and all nations shall have the right to self-determination—namely, the right freely to determine their political, economic, social, and cultural status.' He held that this was an interference in the sovereign rights of nations because it encouraged fissiparous and irredentist movements among minorities in many countries.

**South African Racial Policy.** The South African delegate walked out of the *ad hoc* political committee in protest against the inscription of South Africa's racial policy as an item on the agenda. He reserved the right to vote on any resolution submitted.

**26 Oct.**—The British delegate reiterated in the *ad hoc* committee his Government's view that the South African policy of *apartheid* was essentially a domestic matter and outside the competence of the United Nations.

**27 Oct.—Atomic Energy Agency.** The political committee adopted by 53 votes to none the revised Anglo-American resolution (later co-sponsored by sixteen other countries) recommending (1) that a second international conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy be held within two or three years; (2) that Russia, India, Brazil, and Czechoslovakia be invited to negotiate with eight other countries on a statute for the agency; (3) that a world conference be called to discuss the final text of the constitution of the agency; and (4) that the Secretary-General should study the relationship which the agency should have to the United Nations. Six Arab States abstained (presumably because Israel was one of the co-sponsors). Three Russian amendments, designed to make all States eligible for membership of the agency and to establish it within the framework of the United Nations, were rejected by large majorities.

**Security Council.** A further three inconclusive ballots were held to fill the remaining non-permanent seat on the Security Council, neither Yugoslavia nor the Philippines securing the necessary two-thirds

**United Nations** (*continued*)

majority. On the last ballot the voting was 32 for the Philippines and 24 for Yugoslavia. Most Commonwealth countries and the Communist group supported Yugoslavia, while the United States and the Latin-American countries backed the Philippines. The Asian countries were divided. It was agreed to postpone the balloting for ten days.

**28 Oct.—The Agenda.** The political committee decided by 49 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions, to discuss next, of the items on the agenda, the effects of atomic radiation. The Russian delegate had asked for disarmament to be discussed first because that would be 'of great help to the Foreign Ministers at their present meeting at Geneva.'

**31 Oct.—South-west Africa.** In a debate in the trusteeship committee the South African delegate said that his Government did not recognize the right of the United Nations to exercise any supervision over South-west Africa. He pointed out that at the final meeting of the League of Nations in April 1946 a resolution disposing of the League's mandated territories made no mention of the transfer of supervisory functions to the United Nations. The Union Government believed that the International Court had genuinely erred in its original opinion of 1950 that such a transfer had been made. If it had been intended, he said, the resolution would never have secured a unanimous vote. Neither South Africa nor the United Kingdom would have supported it.

**Effects of Atomic Radiation.** The political committee began discussing two items introduced by the United States and India concerning the collation of information relating to the effects of atomic radiation.

**International Bank**

**25 Oct.**—Great Britain and Canada signed the articles of agreement of the International Finance Corporation, the proposed new affiliate of the World Bank, thus bringing to twenty the number of countries that had signed. Establishment of the corporation awaited the subscription of \$75 m. of capital by thirty Governments. The British contribution was \$14,400,000, second only to that by the United States of \$35,168,000.

**Security Council**

**24 Oct.**—Israeli appeal and allegations against Syria and Egypt (*see Israel*).

**29 Oct.—Buraimi Oasis.** A letter was received from the Saudi Arabian delegation drawing the attention of the United Nations to the Buraimi Oasis dispute, and reserving the right to call a meeting of the Security Council to discuss it.

The British delegation also sent a letter setting out the British version of the dispute. After describing events leading up to the occupation of the oasis (*see p. 728*), it said that the action was taken to protect the legitimate interests of the Ruler of Abu Dhabi and the Sultan of Muscat, after the Saudi Arabian Government had shown itself 'no more willing to reach an equitable solution by arbitration than it was previously by negotiation'. The Government regretted that the action was necessary

but 'it had no other means of honouring obligations to the two Arab rulers concerned'.

**28 Oct.**—Syrian complaint of Israeli 'aggression' (*see Syria*).

### Trusteeship Council

**24 Oct.**—The Council selected Belgium, India, Guatemala, and the United Kingdom as the four members of the U.N. mission to study conditions in Australian-administered New Guinea and Nauru, in New Zealand's administration in Western Samoa, and in the United States administration in the Pacific islands.

### Unesco

**29 Oct.**—I.L.O. condemnation of Unesco dismissals (*see International Labour Office*).

**UNITED STATES. 24 Oct.**—**Mr Dulles.** A message sent by President Eisenhower to the Cabinet was made public. It said that both at the conference table and before the world Mr Dulles 'speaks for me with authority for our country'.

**Indo-China.** The State Department announced that as a result of the referendum in South Vietnam the United States recognized M. Ngo Dinh Diem, the Prime Minister, as head of the State.

**26 Oct.**—**Conference of Western Foreign Ministers** (*see France*).

**27 Oct.**—**Four-Power Conference of Foreign Ministers, q.v.**

U.S. protest *re* treatment of Japan (*see General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade*).

**31 Oct.**—**Guatemala.** President Armas of Guatemala arrived in Washington for a three-day State visit.

U.S. announcement of removal of passport restrictions on travel to Russia and east European States (*see Four-Power Conference*).

**1 Nov.**—Mr Dulles's visit to Spain (*see Spain*).

**URUGUAY. 22 Oct.**—**Argentina.** As a delegation of gratitude and goodwill, some 3,000 Argentines accompanied Dr Alfredo Palacios when he arrived to take up his post as Argentine Ambassador. Dr Palacios said that nothing could eradicate the faithful support given by Uruguay during their long ordeal (under the Perón regime).

**U.S.S.R. 21 Oct.**—Soviet technical aid for oil exploration (*see India*).

**22 Oct.**—**Burma.** U Nu, Burmese Prime Minister, who was on an official visit to the Soviet Union, announced that Russian architects were being asked to build a stadium in Rangoon and a large hall for international conferences. Burma was now able to buy Russian machinery and equipment and to make use of the services of Soviet technicians commensurate with the purchases made from Burma by the Soviet Union.

Marshal Bulganin said that the Burmese and Soviet Governments were moving in unison as far as all major questions of international importance were concerned, including Chinese representation in the



**U.S.S.R. (continued)**

United Nations, disarmament, and anti-colonization. There were also good prospects of closer economic, trade, and cultural relations.

**23 Oct.—United States: Disarmament.** Marshal Bulganin, in a reply to President Eisenhower's letter of 12 October on disarmament, expressed good wishes for his recovery and noted with satisfaction the President's 'favourable attitude to our proposals regarding control posts.'

**24 Oct.—Afghanistan.** It was announced that Marshal Bulganin and Mr Khrushchev had accepted an invitation to visit Afghanistan.

Evacuation of Russian troops from Porkkala (*see Finland*).

**27 Oct.—Germany: Western Note.** The three western Powers, in a reply to the Soviet Note of 18 October (*see No. 20, p. 708*), restated their view that the agreement concluded on 20 September between Marshal Bulganin and Herr Grotewohl in no way released the Soviet Union from her obligations under existing four-Power agreements and emphasized particularly that it did not release her from responsibility to ensure the normal functioning of communications between different parts of Germany including Berlin. The Note also repudiated the Soviet allegation that the western Powers' treaties with the Federal Republic violated quadripartite obligations.

**Four-Power Conference of Foreign Ministers, q.v.**

**29 Oct.—Arrests of Jews.** According to a report reaching London, a number of arrests of Jews had recently been made in Leningrad. (Earlier reports had told of similar arrests of Jews in August in Moscow and other towns.)

**31 Oct.—Treaty of friendship with Yemen (*see Yemen*).**

**1 Nov.—Burma.** U Nu, Prime Minister of Burma, speaking at a dinner in Moscow given in his honour, proposed that the Soviet Union should attend future meetings of the Bandung nations of Africa and Asia. Mr Khrushchev and Marshal Bulganin both endorsed the suggestion.

**WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION. 24 Oct.—**The Assembly of W.E.U. opened its first meeting in Strasbourg under the chairmanship of Mr Maclay (U.K.). The United Kingdom, France, Italy, and Federal Germany were each represented by eighteen delegates, Belgium and the Netherlands by seven delegates each, and Luxembourg by three delegates. The three Saar delegates were not present.

**YEMEN. 31 Oct.—Soviet-Yemeni Treaty.** A five-year treaty of friendship between Russia and Yemen was signed at the Soviet Embassy in Cairo by the Soviet Ambassador and Abdul Rahman abu Taleb, Yemen Minister.

The treaty provided, *inter alia*, for measures to promote trade and for the exchange of diplomatic representatives when necessary.

**ZANZIBAR. 21 Oct.—**Approval for constitutional measures (*see Great Britain*).

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Dec. 10 Australian Elections.  
" 18 Saar Elections.

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